SENATE BILL NO. 416

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS ENGLER AND DOUGHERTY.

Read 1st time February 24, 2005, and ordered printed.

1732S.01I

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to health insurance agreements between certain health care providers.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 376.416, to read as follows:

376.416. No health insurer licensed pursuant to chapter 376, or health carrier, shall discriminate against any optometrist or ophthalmologist who is located within the geographic coverage area of the health benefit plan and who is willing to meet the terms and conditions for participation established by the health insurer or health carrier, including the Missouri state Medicaid and Medicare programs. The terms "health benefit plan" and "health carrier" shall have the meanings ascribed to them in section 376.1350.

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